

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BAGHDA 01125 290858Z
ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 SY-05 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00
NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 OPR-02 /056 W
-----009300 290900Z /10

O 290930Z MAY 78
FM USINT BAGHDAD
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6251
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L BAGHDAD 1125

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINS, IZ
SUBJ: SECURITY MOOD IN BAGHDAD

REF BAGHDAD 1122 (NOTAL)

1. THERE IS AN ATMOSPHERE OF EXPECTANCY IN
BAGHDAD FOLLOWING IN WAKE OF RUMORED EXECUTIONS OF
COMMUNISTS. IRAQIS WELL REMEMBER THAT FEUDS BETWEEN
BAATH AND COMMUNIST PARTIES HAVE ON PAST OCCASIONS
ESCALATED TO MUTUAL BLOODLETTING.

2. BAGHDAD IS OUTWARDLY CALM WITH A DUST STORM PROBABLY
THE MAIN FACTOR IN REDUCING TRAFFIC BELOW NORMAL
LEVELS. YESTERDAY AFTERNOON, TWO ARMORED CARS AND
THREE RANGE ROVERS WITH SPECIAL FORCES DROVE BY USINT
AT HIGH SPEED WITH SIRENS WAILING. SINCE THIS IS
FIRST TIME IN MANY MONTHS THAT ARMORED VEHICLES HAVE
BEEN SEEN ON STREETS OF BAGHDAD, REGIME MAY BE
TAKING UNUSUAL SECURITY PRECAUTIONS. WHATEVER THE
REASON, SUCH EVENT ADDS TO THE FEELING THAT SOMETHING IS
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BREWING.
PECK

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NNN

Message Attributes

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